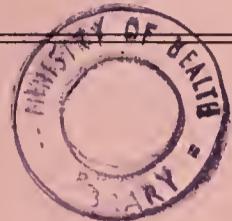


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THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



West Suffolk

R E P O R T

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1958



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the

Acting Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Thingoe,  
in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

Bury St. Edmunds 1280.

Westgate House,  
Bury St. Edmunds.

To the Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

September, 1959.

Owing to the untimely death of Dr. R. H. Clayton, in January, 1959, who was Medical Officer of Health for the District since 1936, I present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year, 1958.

The material for this report has been supplied by the Public Health Inspector, the Clerk of the Council and the Engineer and Surveyor.

I acknowledge with a sense of gratitude the support I have received from the Executive Officers of the Council during the period the post of Medical Officer of Health has been vacant. In addition, my thanks are due to the members of my own staff who have assisted in various ways.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,

D. A. McCracken, M.D.

County Medical Officer of Health: Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health,  
ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Durham),  
Cert. Mental Deficiency and Allied Subjects (London).  
Appointed in 1936. Died, 1959.

This Officer did not engage in private practice but held in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health, Mildenhall R.D.C. } Appointed 1st July, 1936.  
Newmarket U.D.C. }  
Cosford R.D.C. Appointed 1st Feby., 1937.  
Thedwastre R.D.C. " 1st July, 1938.

(b) Others. Senior Public Health Inspector,  
S. M. CASSON, M.I.MUN.E., A.M.I.P.H.E.  
Meat and Other Foods Diploma R.S.I.  
Appointed February 1946.

Mr. Casson is also Engineer and Surveyor to the Council.

Additional Public Health Inspectors,  
F. HOLMES, M.A. P.H.I.,  
Meat & Other Foods Cert. R.S.H.  
Hons. Diploma I.P.H. & H.  
Appointed March 1957.

W.G.G.LEWIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Appointed 6th June, 1955. Left, April 1959.

Public Health & Housing Committee.

Revd. J. E. M. Wright - Chairman.  
Major S. P. L. A. Lithgow - Vice-Chairman.

Mrs. A. J. Catchpole. Mr. E. J. Mitchell.  
Mr. F. G. Copping. Mr. W. R. Rayner.  
Mr. F. B. Clarke. Mr. G. W. Reeve.  
Lady Marjorie Erskine. Mrs. G. Shrewsbury.  
Mr. A. H. Gooch. \* Mr. N. R. Whitwell.  
Mr. C. W. G. Hatten. Mr. J. E. Wortley.  
Mr. F. G. Lebon.  
Revd. E. Hopkins Jones.  
\* Vice-Admiral J. W. Rivett-Carnac.  
\* Ex-officio Members.

VICE-ADMIRAL J. W. RIVETT-CARNAC, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.C., D.L., J.P., CHAIRMAN  
OF COUNCIL.  
MR. J. H. WHITFIELD, CLERK OF THE COUNCIL.

SECTION A.  
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. <u>GENERAL STATISTICS.</u>	Area .. .. ..	106,739 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population	1958. 20,480	(1957) (20,290) (1956) (19,560)
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	5,774	(5,531) (5,600)
Rateable Value	£149,369	(£121,876) (£105,276)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£583	(£512) (£410)

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>				<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate .. .. ..				172	152	324
Illegitimate .. .. ..				11	5	16
			Totals:	183	157	340

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..	..	..	..	16.6
Corrected Birth Rate (Comparability Factor 1.13 ) ..	..	..	..	18.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (England & Wales) ..	..	..	..	16.4

<u>STILLBIRTHS.</u>				<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate .. .. ..				4	1	5
Illegitimate .. .. ..				-	-	-
			Totals:	4	1	5

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ..	..	..	14.5
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births (England & Wales)	21.6		

<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS.</u>				<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate .. .. ..				176	153	329
Illegitimate .. .. ..				11	5	16
			Totals:	187	158	345

<u>INFANT MORTALITY.</u> Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age.				<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate .. .. ..				6	5	11
Illegitimate .. .. ..				-	1	1
			Totals:	6	6	12

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Total) ..	..	35.3
" " " " " (Legitimate) ..	..	33.3
" " " " " (Illegitimate) ..	..	62.5
Neo-Natal " " " " " .. ..	.. ..	23.5
(Deaths of Infants during the first four weeks of life) 8		
Legitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births ..	..	95.3
Maternal Deaths (including abortion) .. ..	.. ..	-
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ..	..	-

<u>Deaths.</u>				<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 population .. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	..	..	9.1
Corrected Death Rate (Comparability Factor .. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	..	..	9.0
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales) .. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	..	..	11.7

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

	YEAR.									
	1949.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.
Birth Rate (Corrected).	16.6	20.6	17.3	17.7	24.8	18.5	16.8	16.7	18.8	18.8
Death Rate (Corrected).	10.5	10.0	11.3	9.8	10.0	10.1	8.4	10.4	10.4	9.6
Infant Mortality Rate.	19.4	19.4	33.0	30.1	24.6	19.9	21.1	27.9	27.9	35.3
Number of Infant Deaths.	9	6	8	8	9	6	6	12	12	12

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths which occurred during 1958:-

	Registrar General's Figures,			
	Male.	Female.	1958.	(1957)
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	- (-)
2. Tuberculosis, other.	..	..	..	- (-)
3. Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	- (-)
4. Diphtheria	..	..	..	- (-)
5. Whooping Cough	..	..	..	- (-)
6. Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	- (-)
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	- (-)
8. Measles	..	..	..	- (-)
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	..	..	-	- (-)
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	2	(2) 1 (1)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	6	(2) - (-)
12. Malignant neoplasm, Breast	..	..	-	(1) 1 (2)
13. Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	..	..	-	- (-) 3 (2)
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	8	(4) 8 (6)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	-	- (-)
16. Diabetes	..	..	..	- (-)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	14	(13) 17 (30)
18. Coronary disease, angina	..	..	21	(23) 12 (9)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	4	(2) 5 (1)
20. Other Heart Disease	..	..	7	(16) 14 (18)
21. Other circulatory disease	..	..	4	(1) 5 (2)
22. Influenza	..	..	..	- (-)
23. Pneumonia	..	..	5	(7) 4 (4)
24. Bronchitis	..	..	9	(-) 1 (5)
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	-	(2) - (-)
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	..	..	1	(2) 2 (3)
27. Gastritis	..	..	..	- (1) 1 (1)
28. Nephritis & Nephrosis	..	..	2	(3) - (1)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	3	(1) - (-)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	-	- (-)
31. Congenital malformations	..	..	-	(2) - (-)
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	..	..	8	(13) 12 (7)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	3	(6) - (1)
34. All Other accidents	..	..	4	(3) 1 (2)
35. Suicide	..	..	-	(2) - (2)
36. Homicide & operations of war	..	..	-	(-) - (-)
			99	(116) 87 (99)

SECTION B.  
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem.

Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tenison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services since July 1953 have been provided directly by the County Council under the direction of Dr. D. A. McCracken, the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The West Suffolk County Council hold Infant Welfare Clinics at the following Centres in Thingoe:-

Honington.	The Aerodrome.	Every Tuesday.
Ixworth,	Village Hall.	3rd Thursday
Rougham.	Village Hall.	3rd Thursday.
Barrow.	The Village Hall.	4th Friday.

(e) HOSPITALS. The use of hospitals by Thingoe residents is indicated by the following information with regard to live births and deaths.

Of the 340 live births to Thingoe residents, 142 were registered as occurring at their own home. The remaining 198 births took place outside Thingoe ; of these the great majority occurred at the hospitals in Bury St. Edmunds and Newmarket.

55 of the 186 deaths of Thingoe Residents in 1958 occurred at Hospitals as under:-

- 32 West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
- 16 St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
- 2 Walnutree Hospital, Sudbury.
- 1 Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.
- 1 U.S.A.A.F. Hospital, Wimpole Park.
- 1 R.A.F. Hospital, Uxbridge.
- 1 St. Barnabas Hospital, Thetford.
- 1 Newmarket General Hospital, Newmarket.

SECTION C.  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. A further increase of 163 in the number of dwellings served by mains water has taken place, raising the average percentage to 72 for the whole area.

This increase is less than previous years, due to the fact that little mainlaying has been carried out and the majority of properties within easy reach of mains have already been connected.

Advantage has been taken of the Council's grants to encourage isolated groups of properties to share the cost of a communal polythene extension when the expense of a normal main would be prohibitive. This has enabled several difficult cases to be solved where the well water was unfit, yet the people could not afford individual connections to the mains. Very few of the bacteriological samples taken from shallow wells have proved satisfactory and it is to be hoped gradually to eliminate as many as possible of these supplies.

MAINS WATER - THINGOE.

YEAR.	PIPED SUPPLY TO HOUSE.		USING STANDPIPE WITHIN 200 FEET.	
	Number	%	Number.	%
1958.	4,198	72%	Nil	-
1957.	4,035	70%	4	1%
1956.	3,836	68%	43	1%
1955.	3,121	56%	56	1%
1954.	2,409	44%	157	3%
1953.	1,911	36%	218	4%
1952.	1,575	30%	263	5%
1951.	1,407	27%	268	5%
1950.	1,093	21%	269	5%
1949.	804	16%	369	7%
1948.	511	10%	384	8%
1947.	379	8%	403	8%

Chemical Analyses from pumping stations were as follows:-

Site.	Bact.	Chemical (parts per 100,000)				
		Cl <sub>2</sub>	O <sub>2</sub>	Nitrate	Nitrite	Hardness.
Ixworth.	Satis.	4.05	0.0578	0.10	Trace	29.4
Risby.	Satis.	2.1	0.445	0.35	Absent	26.4
Rushbrooke.	Satis.	2.2	0.228	0.3	Absent	28.6

Bacteriological Analyses taken during 1958 gave the following results:-

Bacteriological Water Samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
From Mains prior to use.	1	-
From Public Supplies.	128	-
From Private Supplies.	12	32

Of the unsatisfactory samples, 11 have now been connected to mains, ten are too distant for connection to be economical, four are being dealt with under slum clearance and the remainder have been advised to boil all supplies. Four samples were submitted for nitrate estimation, three proving satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. This well was abandoned and the property connected to the mains.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. No change.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The provision of water-borne sanitation continues and the table shows the number of properties connected to sewers during the year. The provision of septic tank drainage has proceeded assisted by Improvement Grants, of which 20 were completed during the year.

HOUSES CONNECTED TO SEWERAGE SYSTEMS.

Added during 1958.			Total 1958 (All Parishes)
PRIVATE.	COUNCIL.	TOTAL.	
13	29	42	162
-	10	10	72
1	2	3	25
-	17	17	49
14	58	72	1,239

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. During the year the Barnham scheme referred to last year was completed and the sewage works taken over. A scheme for the sewerage of Conwy Weston and the unsewered area of Barningham was in preparation and it is hoped this will go to the Ministry early in the new year. Preliminary surveys were also carried out in several parishes ready for future schemes to be developed.

The modernisation of Council houses proceeded during the year to ensure that the basic tap and sink were available. This is often difficult where it is not possible to connect to a sewerage system and the problem of disposal is reflected in the increased number of visits necessary by the cesspool emptier.

The same vehicle was used for the cosspool emptying service as last year and despite its age it had to cope with a greater number of loads as will be seen from the following table.

			1958.	1957.	1956.
Council Housing Sites ..	..	..	230	216	169
Private Within District	..	..	374	355	313
Private Outside District	..	..	143	46	19

The vehicle is hired to Thedwastre R.D.C. on one day per week accounting for the number of visits shown outside the District.

Sewage works have again had the attention of a mobile team which had a difficult job to get round all the works and give the amount of attention they required.

The following are sample reports on effluents taken by the Rivers Board Inspectors:-

Place.		Parts per 100,000 Suspended Solids.	B.O.D.
Honington.	1.	.32	.8
	2.	1.70	2.9
Ixworth.	1.	7.20	4.7
	2.	3.90	5.3

(iii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. The Council bin scheme was well received by the public and each consignment delivered was soon issued, the demand being greater than the supply.

A weekly collection of refuse from all properties has long been felt essential and with this in view arrangements for demonstrations of larger vehicles were arranged. It was then agreed to introduce two new vehicles of greater capacity thus cutting the need for frequent visits to the tips. This scheme it is hoped will be introduced in 1959.

Attention was again paid to vermin infestations and the fly population, but, as usual, the shortage of suitable covering material prevented the tips being maintained in the condition desired.

#### REFUSE COLLECTED AND MILEAGE.

Year.	Volume.	Mileage.
1952.	5,719 cubic yards	19,432 miles
1953.	5,831 "	19,821 "
1954.	6,388 "	20,240 "
1955.	8,816 "	22,240 "
1956.	8,625 "	25,013 "
1957.	8,863 "	19,748 "
1958.	9,655 "	19,178 "

#### SALVAGE COLLECTION.

#### Income and Amounts.

Year.	Income.	Paper Cwts.	Rags Cwts.	Scrap Cwts.
1952.	£212. 19. 6.	418	7.0	26.5
1953.	£75. 6. 5.	341	10.75	132.5
1954.	£128. 0. 1.	295	16.0	54.5
1955.	£466. 11. 0.	822.5	15.2	222.6
1956.	£294. 11. 9.	566.6	16.5	151.5
1957.	£197. 10. 1.	697	12.2	125.3
1958.	£218. 7. 7.	804.1	13.3	475.2

The amount of salvage has again increased and should continue during next year when an improved bonus scheme will be implemented.

The income shown above was actual income during the twelve months as were the amounts collected. The table does not, therefore, show the value of the amounts of salvage shown.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following table itemises the inspections made by Public Health Inspectors and other members of the staff during the year.

Premises Inspected.	Inspections.
Accumulations	2
Bakehouses	21
Dairies	7
Drains: Inspected	159
Water Tests	60
Outworkers	9
Factories (mech)	51
Factories (non-mech)	16
Fireworks premises (storage)	18
Food Premises - Butchers (excluding slaughter houses)	25
Slaughter houses	291
Fried Fish	5
Ice-cream	41
Public Houses	59
Cafes	7
General Stores	187
Mobile Shops	27
Houses - on Complaint	42
Recording	470
Council	5
Overcrowding	4
Improvement Grant	868
Verminous	2
Infectious Diseases	13
Interviews	176
Miscellaneous Visits	79
Movable Dwellings	130
Nuisances Discovered	5
New Buildings	3
Petroleum Storage	105
Piggeries	2
Ponds and Ditches	55
Refuse Collection	18
Rats and Mice	69
Shops - Shops Act	5
Schools	9
Sewers and Sewage Works	100
Tips	21
Water Supply	49
Workplaces	3
Works in Progress	238
	3,416

#### WRITTEN NOTICES.

Notices outstanding 1st January, 1958	..	..	..	7
Served during 1958	..	..	..	2
				Total: 9
Complied with during 1958	..	..	..	6
Outstanding 31st December, 1958	..	..	..	3

FACTORIES ACT. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	6	9	2	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	53	51	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority, <del>excluding out-workers' premises</del> .	18	7	4	Nil
	77	67	6	Nil

~~x i.e.~~ Electrical Stations (Sections 103 (1)), Institutions, (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108)

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Insufficient Sanitary (S.7.) Conveniences	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unsuitable do.	(a) 4	4	Nil	3	Nil
	(b) 4	4	Nil	3	Nil
	8	8	Nil	3	Nil

OUTWORK.

Nature of Work.	M/c. Line No.	No. of Out-Workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (a).	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council.
Wearing Apparel (Making etc)	13	1	Nil
Making boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.	34	Nil.	1

The total number of outworkers is not known as many of those receiving work from the factory let out small batches of work to their friends from time to time.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The administration of the Shops Act in so far as the Council was concerned caused no difficulty and no contraventions were found. Travelling shops were again given much attention and a considerable improvement has been noted.

(v) CAMPING SITES.

There are no tented sites in the District. Caravans known to be in the area numbered 101 and for the most part gave little trouble. However, the hard core of itinerant casual workers, who are not prepared to adopt reasonable standards of hygiene and behaviour, still cause complaints to be made by residents affected.

Mains water was laid on to one licenced site during the year following bad laboratory reports on the bore supply existing.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The Building Bye-law concerning smokeless fuel fittings came into force on 1st January, but it is difficult to make people realise that smoke even in a rural area is undesirable. One complaint was received of smoke during the year. This concerned the discharge of smoke from a forge during a fairly dense fog causing visibility on a major road to be reduced to almost nil. The firm concerned were pleased to co-operate and ceased blowing.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. There are no swimming baths in the area.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No cases were reported during the year.

(ix) COCKROACH INFESTATION.

No cases were reported during the year.

(x) RODENT CONTROL.

There was no change in the staff during the year, but in view of the closure by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food of their farm rat destruction service, it was agreed to take on a limited number of agricultural contracts. No contracts had been taken up by the end of the year, but negotiations are in progress.

The amount of work accomplished can be assessed from the copy of the Operator's twelve month report which is on the following page.

(xi) RAG, FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

No change.

(xii) PETROLEUM & CARBIDE OF CALCIUM. Testing of existing tanks commenced during the year, but very few had been completed by the end of December. The full results will be recorded in next year's report.

The County Council approved the bye-law banning bird scarers during the hours of darkness during the year and many farmers using calcium carbide have now ceased altogether to use this material.

COPY.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.  
Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1959.

Name of Local Authority ..... Thingo'e R.D.C. .... County ..... West Suffolk

Type of Property.

	1. Local Authority	2. Dwelling Houses.	3. All other Premises.	4. Total of Cols.1,2 & 3	5. Agricultural.
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District Notes 1 & 2.	40	5,402	1,444	6,886	389
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of a. notification b. survey under Act c. Otherwise.	Nil 17 23	57 924 2	2 7 94	59 948 119	4 14 Nil
3. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	48
4. Number of properties inspected in Sec.2 which were found to be infested :					
a. Rats Major Minor	2 8	46 184	Nil 2	48 194	Nil 2
b. Mice Major Minor	Nil Nil	Nil 13	Nil Nil	Nil 13	Nil Nil
5. Number of infested properties (Sec.4) treated by L.A.	10	243	1	244	4
6. Number of total treatments carried out - including re-treatments	17	Nil	2	Nil	12
7. Number of notices served under Sec.4 of the Act. a. Treatment b. Structural Work.	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	1 1
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of notice.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9. Legal Proceedings.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	Nil	56	Nil	Nil	Nil

Note 1. With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.

Note 2.(1). Premises used by the L.A. for the purposes of trade should be entered in Col.(3).

{2} Sewers should not be included.

{3} Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Cols, 2 and 3.

Note 3. For the purpose of completing Sections 2, 4 and 5, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

SECTION D.  
HOUSING.

1. (i) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,723
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,747
(ii) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	290
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	290
(iii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	34
(iv) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	957
2. <u>Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:-</u>	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	935
3. <u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-</u>	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 12 and 39 of the Housing Act, 1957:-	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b) <u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c) <u>Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 19, 21 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957.</u>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	16
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made or undertakings accepted not to re-let for human habitation.	28
(4) Number of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders or undertakings	25
(d) <u>Proceedings under Sections 18, 19 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957</u>	
(1) Number of parts of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of parts of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders	Nil
(e) <u>Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957.</u>	
(1) Number of houses included in Clearance Areas	Nil

4.	Housing Act. - Part IV - Overcrowding.	
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	4
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	4
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	30
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding	Nil
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	14
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

During the year January to December 1958, 59 new dwellings were provided, making a total of 1,154. The Autumn Close project, an experiment in the housing of elderly people, was, as forecast last year, completed during June, and the Council was honoured that Mr. Henry Brooke, M.P., Minister of Housing and Local Government found it possible to perform the Official Opening ceremony on the 13th June, 1958. By the end of the year the feeling of the originators of this scheme was that it would prove successful; it was not at this stage however, possible to see whether or not the original estimates of cost of running the scheme were in fact, likely to be accurate.

As in previous years some difficulty was encountered in persuading tenants from sub-standard houses dealt with under the new Housing Acts to take new accommodation provided by the Council, although there was no evidence that the demand for Council houses from other sources showed any particular decline. The Council continued its policy to build only for Slum Clearance cases, and in view of the experience reported above is likely to modify still further, and build only for Slum Clearance cases which it knows will accept re-housing when the new accommodation is available.

Continuing its programme of modernisation of pre-war Council houses where sewers are available, 4 houses at Smithy Close, Rougham, were modernised, but drainage was provided to 6 houses at Fornham All Saints and 19 at The Avenue and Quays Road, Risby, ready for complete modernisation in subsequent years programmes, and a start made on the complete modernisation of 19 houses at Church Road and School Lane, Bardwell, of which 10 were completed by the end of the year. A block of 4 cottages owned by Sir Charles Bunbury at Great Barton, and known as the "Widows Homes", were acquired by the Council and modernised, for elderly people, whilst a pair of derelict cottages in Barningham were also acquired and one completely modernised as part of the Council's programme to try and restore typical Suffolk cottages by acquisition where improvements would otherwise be impossible. It is likely that in the years to come the Council will pursue this policy, and is already negotiating for modernisation to several groups of almshouses, where it is hoped that either by acquisition and direct improvement, or by improvements and Improvement Grant, the general standard of almshouse accommodation can be considerably improved.

SECTION E.  
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) MILK SUPPLY. No new retailers of milk were licenced during the year and there was no change in the number of dairies. All milk sold is designated, except from one producer retailer who is in the process of becoming a registered T.T. producer.

Number of Licences issued during the Year.

Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	1
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	6
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	3
Tuberculin Tested / Pasteurised			..	..	6

Supplementary Licences.

Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	Nil
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	6
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	2
Tuberculin Tested / Pasteurised			..	..	6

Again there were several cases of dirty bottles reported, including one bottle of pasteurised milk bottled outside the County containing a mouse. No legal proceedings were taken, but the matter was taken up most strongly with the Board responsible. It is difficult to believe that this type of offence can be committed accidentally and it is a pity that the milk industry, which has taken such great strides, should be unable to ensure the cleanliness of bottles before they are filled. The general public are not blameless in this matter. The state of some bottles put out for collection is nothing short of disgraceful. Surely it is not difficult to answer the roundsman's request and "rinse and return" rather than use the bottles for every conceivable purpose, returning them in such a condition that many are unusable. The case for reintroducing the war-time measure making it illegal to use milk bottles for any other purpose is a strong one and dairymen deserve such protection.

The County Council Weights and Measures Department continued to furnish sample reports and it is pleasing to report that co-operation between that Department, the Divisional Milk Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and Food and this Council have been excellent and to our mutual advantage.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat Inspection. One hundred per cent meat inspection was again achieved in 1958, but this entailed a member of the Department being out on every Bank Holiday in the year and on some Sundays. In addition, bad road conditions in the early part of the year made the task unenviable, but anything short of complete inspection could be regarded as neglect of a primary duty.

Disease was rarely encountered and despite thorough inspection, no case of *Cysticercus Bovis* was found during the year.

Four slaughterhouses were licenced, but only three operated. No extensive works were carried out at any of them as the new Slaughterhouses Act and associated Regulations were promised by the end of the year. It does not appear from the draft regulations that any of them can comply without extensive modifications, but in the interest of hygiene these Regulations are long overdue.

The printed table is in the form requested in Circular 17/55.

The following is a list of unfit meat surrendered and the diseases and conditions encountered.

Cattle.

		<u>Calves.</u>	
Lungs, (Tuberculosis)	2	Part Leg (Arthritis)	1
Livers, (Abscess)	2		
" { Distome}	1	Sheep.	
" { Cangioma}	1	1 Heart (Cystic)	
Part " { Necrosis}	1½		
Guts (Tuberculosis)	1	Whole carcase & offal (Oedema)	1
Kidneys (Necrosis)	2	" " (Moribund)	1
Carcase (Tuberculosis)	1	" " (Swine erysipelas)	1
All offals		Livers (Necrosis)	3
		Kidney (Nephritis)	1
		Loins (Abscess)	1
		" (Rupture)	1

Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number killed (All were inspected).	146	Nil	2	39	316	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci. Whole carcasses condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	7	Nil	1	1	19	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	4.6%	0%	50%	2.2%	6.5%	0%
Tuberculosis Only. Whole carcasses condemned.	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	8	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	2.4%	0%	0%	0%	2.4%	0%
Cysticercosis. Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

It is pleasing to note the considerable drop in the percentage of tubercular animals found in the slaughterhouses. In fact, the amount of true disease in slaughtered animals was very small.

The amount of frozen meat sold in the area was comparatively small and no disease was found in consignments inspected.

There were no complaints of made up meats being unfit during the year, but several complaints of tainted bacon were investigated and advice given as to better methods of storage. It is surprising that such foods as bacon should be found almost in contact with such substances as paraffin, but this was the case in two instances.

Other Foods. The advice of the Department has been called for by several shopkeepers during the year regarding the fitness or otherwise of various foods and small quantity of tinned goods surrendered.

Methods of storage in shops and stores have improved in several instances resulting in less work for the shopkeeper and improved hygiene.

Travelling shops have shown a slight improvement, but delivery vans have caused some concern. Their use for carrying such diverse goods as unwrapped bread and repaired footwear simultaneously cannot be considered in the interests of hygiene, neither can the stacking of unwrapped bread on flour sacks and flattened cardboard cartons on the floor of a van. Attempts to stop these practices are being pressed, but economical arguments have been the barrier to voluntary co-operation.

#### Food Hygiene.

All food shops have been visited at least twice during the year and those not considered as being of a sufficiently high standard have had many more visits. Food handlers should be hygienic because they believe in hygiene not just to avoid breaking the law and much more lasting benefit is derived from frequent propaganda chats from a Public Health Inspector than all the notices ever sent. This has been shown by the gradual improvement in the area which has been most gratifying.

The number of food business, by type, is as follows:-

General Stores	..	..	..	76
Butchers	..	..	..	11
Bakers	..	..	..	8
Sweets and Confectionery			..	3
Cafes	..	..	..	2
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	2
				102
				—

There were nine school kitchens in the area, including those at boarding schools, but one was closed during the year due to the property being incapable of being brought up to the standard of the Food Hygiene Regulations. One other was replaced by a new one at Barnham.

The staff of these canteens deserve a word of praise as no cause for complaint was due to any default of theirs and they often made the best of unsuitable equipment.

<u>ADULTERATION, ETC.</u>	}	No change.
<u>CHEMICAL &amp; BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.</u>		
<u>NUTRITION.</u>		
<u>SHELL-FISH.</u>		
<u>WATER - CRESS.</u>		

ICE-CREAM. All ice-cream sold from premises within the area is pre-wrapped by the large well known suppliers. Some concern was felt, however, due to power cuts during the winter. Many small shops had full refrigerators and had the power not been restored quickly the temptation to refreeze rather than to return the stocks to the wholesalers would have been very great as the loss of the stock could well have meant serious financial losses.

SECTION F.  
PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The table following shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Disease Hospital.

					<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	7	2
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	2	4
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)					-	1
Measles	..	..	..	..	4	4
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	1	-
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	5	-
Infective Hepatitis	..	..	..	..	4	4
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	-	3

T U B E R C U L O S I S.  
New Cases and Mortality.

NEW CASES.

	<u>1958.</u>	<u>1957.</u>	<u>1956.</u>	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>
Pulmonary	5	6	5	3	10	6	7	9	17
Non-Pulmonary	1	Nil	1	Nil	1	2	4	5	3

Ages of Cases notified in 1958:-

Pulmonary, Male 5, Females 19, 25, 47 and 58 yrs.  
Non-Pulmonary, Female 75 years.

MORTALITY. There were no deaths during 1958.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1. Cases at commencement 1958.	24	31	4	5	28	36
2. Notified first in 1958.	1	4	-	1	1	5
3. Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by Transfers.	2	3	-	-	2	3
5. Cases removed from Register.	6	11	3	3	9	14
6. Remaining at end of 1958.	21	27	1	3	22	30



